

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 4, 2004, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting to consider the proposed Federal Public Transportation Act. The meeting will be held in room S-219 of the Capitol.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, February 4, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., to hear testimony on the administration's Health and Human Services Budget Priorities. The meeting will be held in room B318 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 4, 2004, at 2 p.m., for a hearing titled "Preserving a Strong United States Postal Service: Workforce Issues, Day 2." The meeting will be held in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a fellow in Senator HILLARY CLINTON's office, Joshua Shank, be granted the privilege of the floor during the pendency of this action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Nick Karellas of my staff be granted floor privileges during the remaining consideration of S. 1072.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to S. Con. Res. 130 (106th Congress), appoints the following individual to the Task Force on Slave Laborers: Virginia Walden-Ford of Washington, DC.

REFERRAL OF H.R. 1446

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 318, H.R. 1446, the California missions bill, be referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOMELAND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 416, S. 1612.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1612) to establish a technology, equipment, and information transfer program within the Department of Homeland Security.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(Strike the part shown in black brackets and insert the part shown in italic.)

S. 1612

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

[This Act may be cited as the "Homeland Security Technology Improvement Act of 2003".]

SEC. 2. HOMELAND SECURITY TRANSFER PROGRAM.

[(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 430 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 238) is amended—

[(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

[(2) in subsection (c)—

[(A) in paragraph (7), by striking "and" at the end;

[(B) in paragraph (8), by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and

[(C) by adding at the end the following:

["(9) overseeing and coordinating a multi-agency homeland security technology, equipment, and information transfer program to allow for the transfer of technology, equipment, and information to State and local law enforcement agencies."; and

[(3) by adding after subsection (c) the following:

["(d) TECHNOLOGY, EQUIPMENT, AND INFORMATION TRANSFER PROGRAM.—

["(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

["(A) identify counterterrorism technologies, equipment, and information developed or proven to be effective by—

["(i) consulting with the Undersecretary for Science and Technology;

["(ii) establishing an advisory committee comprised of retired and active-duty law enforcement officials from geographically diverse regions;

["(iii) consulting with State and local law enforcement agencies; and

["(iv) entering into agreements and coordinating with other Federal agencies to maximize the effectiveness of the technologies, equipment, and information available to law enforcement agencies;

["(B) make these technologies, equipment, and information available to State and local law enforcement agencies on an annual basis;

["(C) accept applications from the head of State and local law enforcement agencies

that wish to acquire such technologies, equipment, and information to improve the homeland security capabilities of those agencies, and review such applications in coordination with the advisory committee established under subparagraph (A)(ii); and

["(D) transfer the approved technology, equipment, and information, and provide the appropriate training to the State or local law enforcement agency pending the approval of the application of the State or local law enforcement agency under subparagraph (C).

["(2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURE.—No more than 10 percent of the budget of the technology, equipment, and information transfer program under this subsection may be used for administrative expenses.

["(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2014 to carry out this subsection.".]

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Homeland Security Technology Improvement Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. HOMELAND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 313 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 193) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

“(6) The establishment of a multi-agency homeland security technology, equipment, and information transfer program to allow for the transfer of technology, equipment, and information to State and local law enforcement agencies.”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM.—In developing the program described under subsection (b)(6), the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall—

“(1) in close cooperation with the Office of Domestic Preparedness, conduct, on an ongoing basis—

“(A) research and development of new technologies;

“(B) surveys and reviews of available appropriate technologies; and

“(C) tests, evaluations, and demonstrations of new and available technologies that significantly improve the capability of law enforcement agencies in countering terrorist threats;

“(2) in support of the activities described in paragraph (1)—

“(A) consult with State and local law enforcement agencies and others determined by the Secretary, including the advisory committee established under section 430(d);

“(B) work with the National Institute for Standards and Technology and any other office or agency determined by the Secretary;

“(C) at the discretion of the Secretary, enter into agreements and coordinate with other Federal agencies to maximize the effectiveness of the technologies, equipment, and information; and

“(3) provide a comprehensive list of available technologies, equipment, and information to the Office for Domestic Preparedness which shall administer a technology transfer program described under section 430(d).”.

(b) OFFICE FOR DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS.—Section 430 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 238) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) TECHNOLOGY, EQUIPMENT, AND INFORMATION TRANSFER PROGRAM.—

“(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The Director of the Office for Domestic Preparedness, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Science and